

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Office of the Chief Financial Officer**

**Natwar M. Gandhi**  
Chief Financial Officer



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Linda W. Cropp  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

**FROM:** Natwar M. Gandhi  
Chief Financial Officer

**DATE:** March 31, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement: "Uniform Mediation Act of 2003"

**REFERENCE:** Draft Legislation – Bill Number Not Available

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2003 through FY 2006 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation because there is no significant financial impact associated with the provisions of the proposal.

**Background**

The proposed legislation would establish rules for confidentiality and privileges in mediation. It also would establish an evidentiary privilege for mediators and participants in mediation that would apply in later legal proceedings.

Seven states have introduced this uniform legislation during their 2003 legislative sessions (Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont).

**Financial Plan Impact**

The proposed legislation would have no direct financial impact on the District of Columbia's budget or financial plan. Two of the states (Indiana and Nebraska) that have introduced this legislation and that have produced available cost estimates, also determined that there is no associated fiscal impact.